W E S T V I R G I N I A

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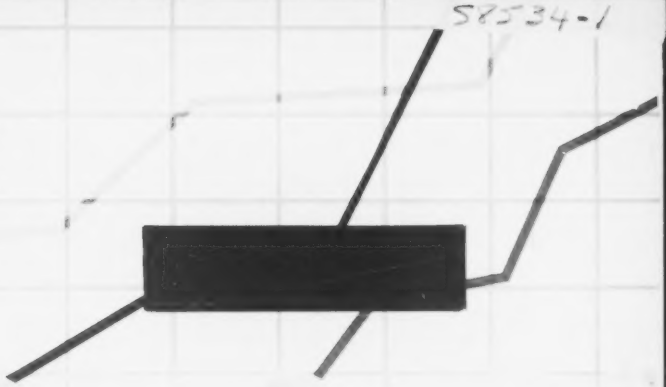
# Economic Summary



A Monthly Newsletter On
Economic Activity in West Virginia

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# State of West Virginia
# Bureau of Employment Programs

*Gaston Caperton*
*Governor*

*Andrew N. Richardson*
*Commissioner*

**FEBRUARY 1992**

West Virginia Economic Summary

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*This Month...*

*Interstate claims for jobless benefits provide some interesting insights into West Virginia's unemployment problems. See* **"Where Was Your Last Job?"** *on page 6A.*

## Total Employment, Unemployment, and Civilian Labor Force in West Virginia

| **WV Series Labor Force Data** *(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)* | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Change from: Nov. 1991* | *Dec. 1990* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Civilian Labor Force | 743.0 | 738.6 | 730.7 | 4.4 | 12.3 |
| Total Employment | 683.0 | 688.7 | 681.7 | -5.7 | 1.3 |
| Total Unemployment | 60.0 | 49.9 | 49.0 | 10.1 | 11.0 |
| Unemployment Rate | 8.1 | 6.8 | 6.7 | xx | xx |
| **BLS Series Labor Force Data** *(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)* | | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 783.6 | 783.1 | 777.7 | 0.5 | 5.9 |
| Total Employment | 696.6 | 703.2 | 704.0 | -6.6 | -7.4 |
| Total Unemployment | 87.1 | 80.0 | 73.8 | 7.1 | 13.3 |
| Unemployment Rate | 11.1 | 10.2 | 9.5 | xx | xx |

**EMPLOYMENT:** Total employment for all West Virginia residents decreased 5,700 during the month to an estimated 683,000 in mid-December. There were 1,300 more people employed in West Virginia this December than in the same month last year.

A shrinking number of construction jobs pulled down the goods-producing sector, with declines of 1,100 in heavy construction, 500 among special trade contractors and 100 in building construction. Such curtailments are typical for winter construction employment. In addition, mining went down 500 due to dropping demand for coal, and the manufacturing workforce lost 300. Dominating the change among service-producing industries was a 1,500 expansion in trade, caused largely by Christmas seasonal hiring. Tourism-sensitive industries like restaurants, hotels and amusements experienced a seasonal slowdown. Transportation and public utilities lost 500 workers during the month as a result of a layoff and a labor-management dispute.

The count of nonfarm payroll jobs this month remains 2,900 ahead of last December. The additional employees have been added in the service-producing industries, which are up 6,400 over the year, while goods-producing employment has dropped by 3,500 since December a year ago.

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** The number of unemployed swelled 10,100 to an estimated 60,000 in mid-December. This represents an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent for December, up significantly from 6.8 percent last month and 6.7 percent in December of 1990. Unemployment almost always worsens between November and December, but the weak national economy has contributed to a higher than normal increase in unemployment this year.

# West Virginia Economic Indicators

| | Dec. 1991 | Nov. 1991 | Dec. 1990 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Average Weekly Hours in Manufacturing | | | |
| Unadjusted | 40.8 | 41.2 | 42.0 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | 40.6 | 41.1 | 41.8 |
| Total Production Worker Hours in Manufacturing (000), Weekly, Unadjusted | 2,569 | 2,593 | 2,697 |
| Average Weekly Earnings in Manufacturing, Unadjusted | $491.64 | $495.64 | $492.66 |
| Average Weekly Hours in Bituminous Coal Mining, Unadjusted | 44.7 | 46.3 | 44.2 |
| Average Weekly Earnings in Bituminous Coal Mining, Unadjusted | $834.55 | $879.70 | $805.32 |
| Coal Production (000 Tons) | | | |
| Unadjusted | * | 13,961 | 12,300 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | * | 14,175 | 12,850 |
| Commercial and Industrial Electric Power Sales (000,000 KWH) | | | |
| Unadjusted | 1,199 | 1,140 | 1,151 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | 1,213 | 1,226 | 1,165 |
| New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Unadjusted | 5,040 | 7,492 | 5,323 |
| Interstate Initial Claims | | | |
| Unadjusted | 1,726 | 1,234 | 1,394 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | 1,461 | 1,177 | 1,180 |
| Average Weekly Initial Claims | | | |
| Unadjusted | 3,090 | 2,120 | 2,237 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | 2,479 | 2,219 | 1,794 |
| Insured Unemployment Rate | | | |
| Unadjusted | 4.2 | 3.3 | 3.6 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | 4.0 | 4.1 | 3.4 |
| Total Unemployment Rate, Seasonally Adjusted | 8.0 | 7.5 | 6.6 |

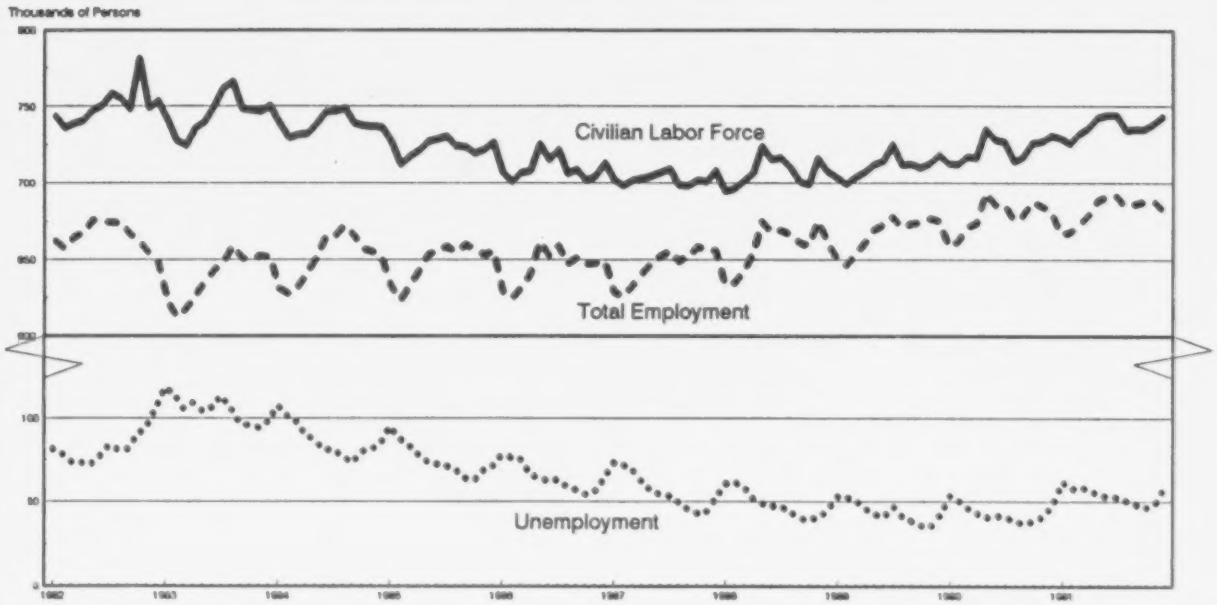
*December 1991 data not available*

# Selected National Data

| | Dec. 1991 | Nov. 1991 | Dec. 1990 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Civilian Unemployment Rate | | | |
| Unadjusted | 6.8 | 6.6 | 5.9 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | 7.1 | 6.9 | 6.1 |
| Consumer Price Index, All Urban Consumers | | | |
| Unadjusted | | | |
| 1982-84 Base | 137.9 | 137.8 | 133.8 |
| 1967 Base | 413.0 | 412.7 | 400.9 |
| Producer Price Index, Finished Goods | | | |
| Unadjusted, 1982 Base | 121.9 | 122.3 | 122.0 |
| Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance (000) | | | |
| Week including 12th, Unadjusted | 561.6 | 416.9 | 522.9 |
| Insured Unemployment Rate, Week including 12th | | | |
| Unadjusted | 3.3 | 2.9 | 2.9 |
| Seasonally Adjusted | 3.3 | 3.3 | 2.8 |

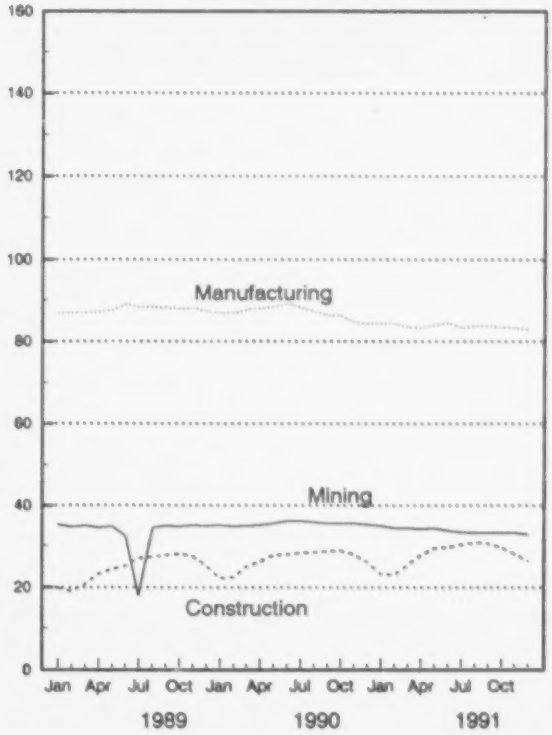
# Trends in the West Virginia Labor Market

## Total Employment, Unemployment and Civilian Labor Force



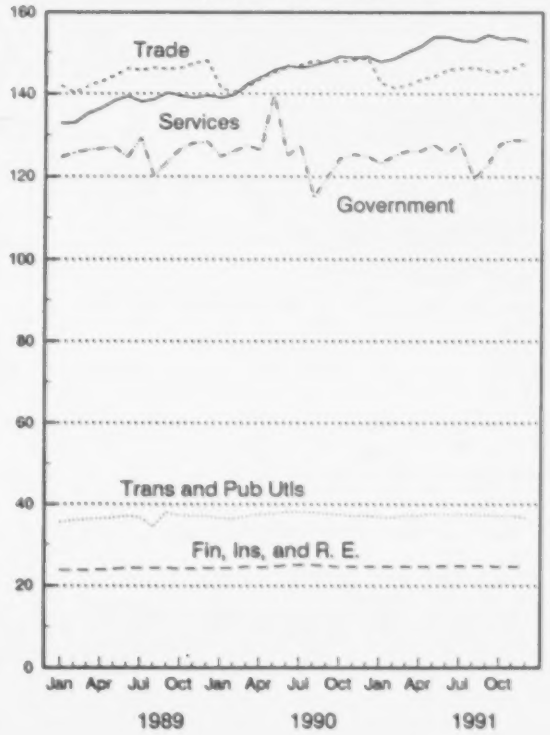

## Goods Producing Employment

*Employment in Thousands*




## Service Producing Employment

*Employment in Thousands*



# Statewide Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry

*(In Thousands -- Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | Prelim. Dec.'91 | Revised Nov.'91 | Revised Dec.'90 | Change From: Nov. 1991 | Change From: Dec. 1990 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL | 633.0 | 635.1 | 630.1 | -2.1 | 2.9 |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | 504.3 | 506.4 | 505.2 | -2.1 | -0.9 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 142.2 | 144.7 | 145.7 | -2.5 | -3.5 |
| Mining | 32.9 | 33.4 | 35.3 | -0.5 | -2.4 |
| Coal Mining | 27.5 | 27.9 | 29.5 | -0.4 | -2.0 |
| Oil & Gas Extraction | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Other Mining | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| Construction | 26.3 | 28.0 | 26.0 | -1.7 | 0.3 |
| General Building Contractors | 6.5 | 6.6 | 7.0 | -0.1 | -0.5 |
| Heavy Construction | 7.1 | 8.2 | 7.1 | -1.1 | 0.0 |
| Special Trade Contractors | 12.7 | 13.2 | 11.9 | -0.5 | 0.8 |
| Manufacturing | 83.0 | 83.3 | 84.4 | -0.3 | -1.4 |
| Durable Goods | 45.3 | 45.4 | 46.9 | -0.1 | -1.6 |
| Lumber, Wood Products & Furniture | 7.9 | 7.9 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.7 | -0.1 | -0.4 |
| Primary Metals Industries | 13.4 | 13.3 | 13.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 5.4 | 5.4 | 5.7 | 0.0 | -0.3 |
| Industrial Machinery & Equipment | 4.7 | 4.7 | 5.7 | 0.0 | -1.0 |
| Electronic & Electrical Equipment | 2.6 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Transportation Equipment | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.5 | -0.1 | -0.7 |
| Other Durable Goods | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Nondurable Goods | 37.7 | 37.9 | 37.5 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Textile Mill Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Printing & Publishing | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 17.4 | 17.4 | 17.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 4.7 | 4.8 | 4.4 | -0.1 | 0.3 |
| SERVICE-PRODUCING | 490.8 | 490.4 | 484.4 | 0.4 | 6.4 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 36.6 | 37.1 | 37.1 | -0.5 | -0.5 |
| Railroad Transportation | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.8 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Trucking & Warehousing | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.2 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Other Transportation | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Communications | 8.0 | 8.2 | 8.1 | -0.2 | -0.1 |
| Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services | 12.1 | 12.3 | 12.4 | -0.2 | -0.3 |
| Trade | 147.8 | 146.3 | 148.7 | 1.5 | -0.9 |
| Wholesale Trade | 29.9 | 30.0 | 30.3 | -0.1 | -0.4 |
| Retail Trade | 117.9 | 116.3 | 118.4 | 1.6 | -0.5 |
| Building Materials & Garden Supplies | 5.0 | 5.1 | 4.9 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 18.2 | 17.5 | 18.1 | 0.7 | 0.1 |
| Food Stores | 22.9 | 22.8 | 23.2 | 0.1 | -0.3 |
| Automotive Dealers & Service Stations | 14.1 | 14.2 | 14.6 | -0.1 | -0.5 |
| Apparel & Accessory Stores | 5.9 | 5.4 | 6.7 | 0.5 | -0.8 |
| Home Furniture & Equipment Stores | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 34.6 | 35.1 | 34.4 | -0.5 | 0.2 |
| Miscellaneous Retail | 12.8 | 12.0 | 12.1 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 24.8 | 24.7 | 24.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Finance | 14.1 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Insurance | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Real Estate | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Services | 152.9 | 153.6 | 149.0 | -0.7 | 3.9 |
| Agricultural Services | 2.5 | 2.7 | 2.2 | -0.2 | 0.3 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 8.0 | 8.4 | 8.7 | -0.4 | -0.7 |
| Personal Services | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Business Services | 14.1 | 14.2 | 14.5 | -0.1 | -0.4 |
| Automotive & Miscellaneous Repair Services | 6.2 | 6.3 | 6.2 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Amusements, incl. Motion Pictures | 5.3 | 5.5 | 5.2 | -0.2 | 0.1 |
| Health Services | 58.3 | 58.2 | 56.6 | 0.1 | 1.7 |
| Nursing & Personal Care Homes | 10.7 | 10.7 | 10.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Hospitals | 29.2 | 29.2 | 28.3 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| Other Health Services | 18.4 | 18.3 | 17.7 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| Legal Services | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.1 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Educational Services | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Social Services | 12.7 | 12.4 | 10.2 | 0.3 | 2.5 |
| Membership Organizations | 19.6 | 19.6 | 19.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Engineering & Management Services | 8.5 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Government | 128.7 | 128.7 | 124.9 | 0.0 | 3.8 |
| Federal | 17.0 | 16.9 | 14.5 | 0.1 | 2.5 |
| Hospitals | 3.2 | 3.2 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| U S Postal Service | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Other Federal | 8.7 | 8.6 | 6.6 | 0.1 | 2.1 |
| State | 40.9 | 40.8 | 39.1 | 0.1 | 1.8 |
| Hospitals | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Education | 19.5 | 19.5 | 18.3 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| Other State | 19.0 | 18.9 | 18.3 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| Local | 70.8 | 71.0 | 71.3 | -0.2 | -0.5 |
| Hospitals | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Education | 45.3 | 45.3 | 45.8 | 0.0 | -0.5 |
| Other Local | 20.4 | 20.6 | 20.5 | -0.2 | -0.1 |
| Labor-Management Dispute Status | 2.1 | 1.9 | 2.2 | xx | xx |

## *Women Workers*
## Statewide Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry

*(In Thousands -- Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Change From: Nov. 1991* | *Dec. 1990* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL | 288.1 | 286.6 | 278.4 | 1.5 | 9.7 |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | 218.7 | 217.6 | 213.2 | 1.1 | 5.5 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 24.0 | 24.2 | 24.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 |
| Mining | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Coal Mining | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Oil & Gas Extraction | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.1 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| General Building Contractors | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Heavy Construction | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Special Trade Contractors | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Manufacturing | 19.8 | 19.9 | 20.1 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| Durable Goods | 7.5 | 7.3 | 7.7 | 0.2 | -0.2 |
| Lumber, Wood Products & Furniture | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Primary Metals Industries | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Industrial Machinery & Equipment | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Electronic & Electrical Equipment | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Transportation Equipment | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Other Durable Goods | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 12.3 | 12.6 | 12.4 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Textile Mill Products | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Printing & Publishing | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.0 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.7 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| SERVICE-PRODUCING | 264.1 | 262.4 | 254.2 | 1.7 | 9.9 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 8.4 | 8.3 | 8.0 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Trucking & Warehousing | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Other Transportation | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Communications | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Trade | 71.3 | 69.9 | 69.9 | 1.4 | 1.4 |
| Wholesale Trade | 6.2 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Retail Trade | 65.1 | 63.7 | 64.2 | 1.4 | 0.9 |
| Building Materials & Garden Supplies | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 12.9 | 12.4 | 12.1 | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| Food Stores | 12.5 | 12.4 | 12.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Automotive Dealers & Service Stations | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Apparel & Accessory Stores | 4.9 | 4.5 | 5.6 | 0.4 | -0.7 |
| Home Furniture & Equipment Stores | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 20.3 | 20.5 | 19.6 | -0.2 | 0.7 |
| Miscellaneous Retail | 8.4 | 7.9 | 8.8 | 0.5 | -0.4 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 15.5 | 15.4 | 15.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Finance | 11.1 | 11.0 | 10.8 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Insurance | 2.9 | 3.0 | 2.9 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Real Estate | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Services | 99.5 | 99.8 | 95.7 | -0.3 | 3.8 |
| Agricultural Services | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.9 | -0.3 | -0.7 |
| Personal Services | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Business Services | 7.3 | 7.5 | 7.0 | -0.2 | 0.3 |
| Automotive & Miscellaneous Repair Services | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Amusements, incl. Motion Pictures | 2.6 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Health Services | 47.9 | 47.9 | 46.4 | 0.0 | 1.5 |
| Nursing & Personal Care Homes | 9.6 | 9.6 | 9.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Hospitals | 24.1 | 24.1 | 23.5 | 0.0 | 0.6 |
| Other Health Services | 14.2 | 14.2 | 13.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Legal Services | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Educational Services | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Social Services | 9.2 | 8.9 | 7.3 | 0.3 | 1.9 |
| Membership Organizations | 11.9 | 11.9 | 11.2 | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Engineering & Management Services | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Government | 69.4 | 69.0 | 65.2 | 0.4 | 4.2 |
| Federal | 7.4 | 7.3 | 6.2 | 0.1 | 1.2 |
| Hospitals | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| U S Postal Service | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other Federal | 4.2 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| State | 20.6 | 20.4 | 18.9 | 0.2 | 1.7 |
| Hospitals | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Education | 11.0 | 10.9 | 9.5 | 0.1 | 1.5 |
| Other State | 7.9 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Local | 41.4 | 41.3 | 40.1 | 0.1 | 1.3 |
| Hospitals | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Education | 30.1 | 30.0 | 29.0 | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| Other Local | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.0 | -0.1 | 0.0 |

# Special Report: *Where Was Your Last Job?*

***What Interstate Jobless Claims Tell About the Unemployed***

Since the onset of the current recession, West Virginia has experienced a significant increase in unemployment. However, we have observed no corresponding drop in payroll employment; the count of nonfarm payroll jobs in the state is about where it was before the recession began. The dynamics of the labor market provide a number of possible explanations for this seeming contradiction. Part of the answer can perhaps be found among the normally obscure records of interstate claims filed for unemployment benefits.

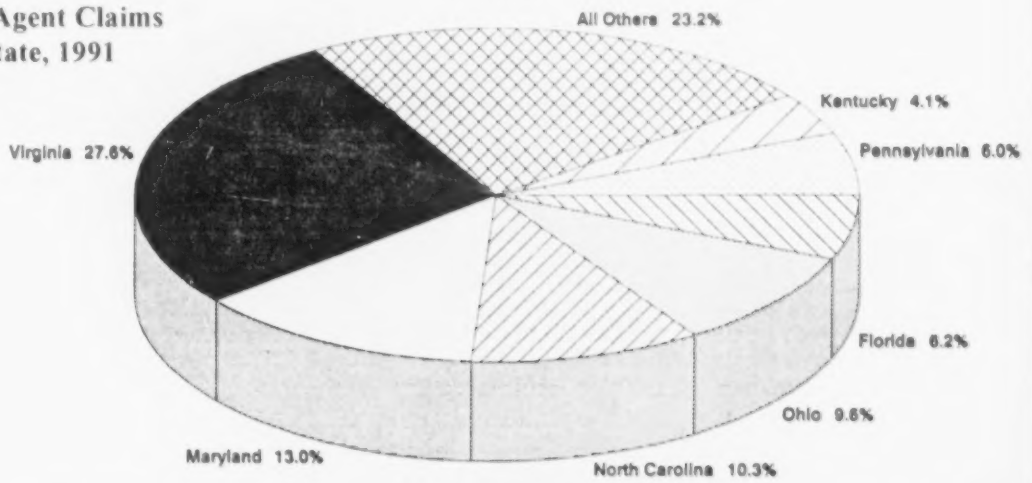
Remember that nonfarm payroll employment is a count of jobs at businesses within the borders of West Virginia. Labor force and unemployment, on the other hand, are adjusted to estimate individuals by residence rather than place of work. To be counted as unemployed (by either the WV or BLS method of calculation), one must be a current West Virginia resident who does not have a job and is actively seeking work.

Not all of America's unemployed are eligible for jobless benefits. In fact, most are not; the system generally pays only those who recently held a job for a significant period of time and lost it through no fault of their own. However, the administrative records of the unemployment compensation system tell us a lot about people who do file claims and draw benefits. Sometimes we can use the records to make assumptions about the rest of the unemployed.

Since employer tax rates are partly determined by benefits paid to each firm's former workers, each claimant's former employer is an important matter of record. Some claimants file against ex-employers in other states. These people may be commuters who lived here but commuted to jobs across our borders before becoming unemployed, or workers who returned or moved to West Virginia after losing jobs elsewhere. Such claims, filed by West Virginia residents against employers in other states, are called *interstate agent claims*.

During the present recession many nearby states, especially those along the East Coast, have experienced much more serious job losses than West Virginia. The interstate claims figures reflect this. Between 1989 and 1991 the number of interstate agent claims filed by West Virginia residents against out-of-state employers increased

**WV Interstate Agent Claims by Liable State, 1991**



## Special Report: *Where Was Your Last Job?*

*(continued)*

68 percent, compared to a 42 percent increase in claims by West Virginians against West Virginia employers.

In 1990 and 1991 out-of-state layoffs were responsible for ten percent of all jobless claims filed by West Virginia residents. In the prior recessionary period of 1980-1983, interstate agent claims were only about six percent of the total.

As one would expect, interstate claims work in both directions. A resident of another state may file a claim against his former West Virginia employer. This is known as an *interstate liable claim*. Back in 1980-83 interstate agent and interstate liable claims balanced out pretty well; the numbers stayed approximately even. In 1990 and 1991 there were almost three times as many interstate agent as interstate liable claims. In other words, far more West Virginians are filing claims against out-of-state employers than the reverse.

The geographical distribution of interstate claims has also shifted noticeably in the last decade. While we have no state-by-state figures for 1980-83, Ohio unquestionably accounted for the largest proportion of both interstate agent and interstate liable claims, due to widespread commuting to the plants that line both sides of the Ohio River. During the eighties, however, our Eastern Panhandle developed into a distant suburb of metropolitan Washington, and a construction boom in Northern Virginia and Maryland attracted many West Virginia workers. In 1991 27.6 percent of all West Virginia interstate agent claims were filed against employers in Virginia, with Maryland a distant second at 13.0 percent. North Carolina was next with 10.3 percent, followed by Ohio (9.6), Florida (6.2), Pennsylvania (6.0), and Kentucky (4.1). The remaining 23.2 percent included claims against employers in every other state in the Union.

What all this means is that at least a portion of West Virginia's increased unemployment may be attributed to economic deterioration in other states, rather than business conditions within our own borders. Admittedly, jobless claims figures relate to only a portion of the unemployed. However, a return to home and family is a normal and customary human reaction to economic dislocation. Considering the magnitude of outmigration from the state during the eighties, it seems reasonable to assume that many more former West Virginians than the claims figures indicate have responded to worsening economic conditions elsewhere by returning.

**CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**

***Intrastate Claim:*** A claim filed by a West Virginia resident against a former employer in West Virginia. Benefits are paid from West Virginia's unemployment trust fund.

***Interstate Agent Claim***: A claim filed by a West Virginia resident against a former employer in another state. The other state reimburses West Virginia for benefits paid.

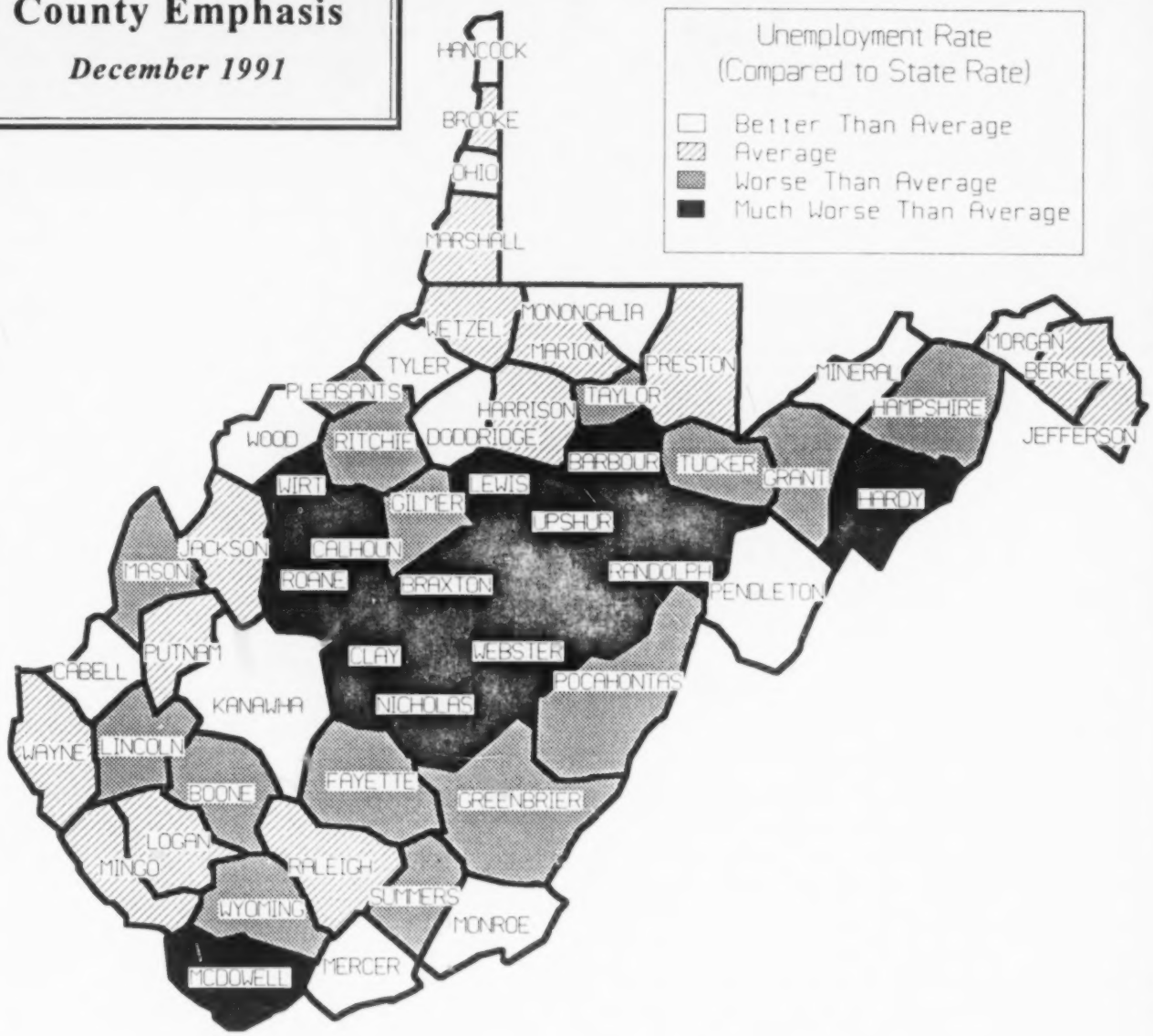
***Interstate Liable Claim***: A claim filed by a resident of another state against a former employer in West Virginia. West Virginia's trust fund reimburses the other state for benefits.

# Average Hours and Earnings, West Virginia
# Production and Nonsupervisory Workers

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Dec. '91* | *Nov. '91* | *Dec. '90* | *Dec. '91* | *Nov. '91* | *Dec. '90* | *Dec. '91* | *Nov. '91* | *Dec. '90* |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | $363.37 | $365.21 | $358.31 | 35.8 | 35.7 | 36.6 | $10.15 | $10.23 | $9.79 |
| Coal Mining | 834.55 | 879.70 | 805.32 | 44.7 | 46.3 | 44.2 | 18.67 | 19.00 | 18.22 |
| Oil & Gas Extraction | 502.22 | 479.19 | 461.47 | 43.9 | 42.9 | 45.6 | 11.44 | 11.17 | 10.12 |
| Construction | 516.74 | 526.28 | 525.33 | 36.7 | 36.7 | 39.0 | 14.08 | 14.34 | 13.47 |
| Manufacturing | 491.64 | 495.64 | 492.66 | 40.8 | 41.2 | 42.0 | 12.05 | 12.03 | 11.73 |
| Durable Goods | 494.40 | 500.86 | 508.46 | 41.2 | 41.6 | 42.8 | 12.00 | 12.04 | 11.88 |
| Lumber, Wood Products & Furniture | 310.82 | 310.71 | 294.17 | 39.9 | 40.3 | 41.2 | 7.79 | 7.71 | 7.14 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 466.75 | 472.93 | 454.06 | 40.8 | 40.7 | 39.9 | 11.44 | 11.62 | 11.38 |
| Primary Metals Industries | 644.23 | 646.67 | 725.46 | 42.3 | 42.6 | 47.2 | 15.23 | 15.18 | 15.37 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 466.17 | 479.23 | 463.14 | 41.0 | 41.6 | 41.5 | 11.37 | 11.52 | 11.16 |
| Industrial Machinery & Equipment | 511.27 | 525.84 | 480.00 | 41.0 | 42.0 | 40.0 | 12.47 | 12.52 | 12.00 |
| Electronic & Electrical Equipment | 547.76 | 582.80 | 566.15 | 42.2 | 44.9 | 44.3 | 12.98 | 12.98 | 12.78 |
| Transportation Equipment | 534.70 | 526.25 | 538.15 | 43.9 | 43.1 | 47.0 | 12.18 | 12.21 | 11.45 |
| Nondurable Goods | 488.44 | 487.61 | 469.20 | 40.3 | 40.6 | 40.8 | 12.12 | 12.01 | 11.50 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 368.63 | 385.45 | 365.66 | 37.5 | 38.7 | 38.9 | 9.83 | 9.96 | 9.40 |
| Textile Mill Products | 233.55 | 255.19 | 227.69 | 34.6 | 36.3 | 35.3 | 6.75 | 7.03 | 6.45 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 222.04 | 212.28 | 195.26 | 36.7 | 36.6 | 33.9 | 6.05 | 5.80 | 5.76 |
| Paper & Allied Products | 377.99 | 346.10 | 384.45 | 43.1 | 41.4 | 44.6 | 8.77 | 8.36 | 8.62 |
| Printing & Publishing | 345.00 | 353.72 | 392.62 | 35.9 | 37.0 | 39.9 | 9.61 | 9.56 | 9.84 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 767.45 | 766.54 | 702.85 | 45.6 | 45.6 | 44.4 | 16.83 | 16.81 | 15.83 |
| Trucking & Warehousing | 411.95 | 427.05 | 418.20 | 43.5 | 44.3 | 42.2 | 9.47 | 9.64 | 9.91 |
| Communications | 499.26 | 499.90 | 501.90 | 36.9 | 37.9 | 42.0 | 13.53 | 13.19 | 11.95 |
| Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services | 663.98 | 695.07 | 621.82 | 43.2 | 44.3 | 42.1 | 15.37 | 15.69 | 14.77 |
| Trade | 243.54 | 237.12 | 233.74 | 32.3 | 31.7 | 32.6 | 7.54 | 7.48 | 7.17 |
| Wholesale Trade | 473.34 | 460.40 | 431.61 | 40.7 | 40.6 | 40.3 | 11.63 | 11.34 | 10.71 |
| Retail Trade | 188.77 | 182.61 | 186.65 | 30.3 | 29.5 | 30.8 | 6.23 | 6.19 | 6.06 |
| Building Materials & Garden Supplies | 255.84 | 257.46 | 270.58 | 38.3 | 38.6 | 39.5 | 6.68 | 6.67 | 6.85 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 227.47 | 198.47 | 227.77 | 33.8 | 30.3 | 34.2 | 6.73 | 6.55 | 6.66 |
| Food Stores | 182.74 | 183.38 | 177.03 | 28.2 | 28.3 | 28.6 | 6.48 | 6.48 | 6.19 |
| Automotive Dealers & Service Stations | 265.93 | 268.22 | 274.88 | 35.6 | 36.1 | 36.7 | 7.47 | 7.43 | 7.49 |
| Apparel & Accessory Stores | 147.86 | 146.40 | 149.70 | 28.6 | 28.1 | 30.0 | 5.17 | 5.21 | 4.99 |
| Home Furniture & Equipment Stores | 315.20 | 298.02 | 290.43 | 39.4 | 36.3 | 35.9 | 8.00 | 8.21 | 8.09 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 121.64 | 121.16 | 117.26 | 25.5 | 25.4 | 26.0 | 4.77 | 4.77 | 4.51 |
| Miscellaneous Retail | 200.98 | 192.74 | 196.02 | 31.8 | 30.4 | 33.0 | 6.32 | 6.34 | 5.94 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 316.11 | 308.91 | 311.74 | 36.8 | 36.3 | 37.2 | 8.59 | 8.51 | 8.38 |
| Finance | 270.11 | 256.68 | 257.52 | 36.7 | 35.7 | 37.0 | 7.36 | 7.19 | 6.96 |
| Insurance | 458.18 | 458.15 | 457.73 | 38.6 | 38.5 | 38.4 | 11.87 | 11.90 | 11.92 |
| Real Estate | 292.86 | 297.14 | 313.54 | 35.2 | 35.8 | 36.5 | 8.32 | 8.30 | 8.59 |
| Services | 286.27 | 282.56 | 279.10 | 33.6 | 33.4 | 34.8 | 8.52 | 8.46 | 8.02 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 225.75 | 230.40 | 212.13 | 29.9 | 29.5 | 29.3 | 7.55 | 7.81 | 7.24 |
| Personal Services | 243.70 | 231.82 | 224.41 | 33.8 | 33.5 | 34.9 | 7.21 | 6.92 | 6.43 |
| Business Services | 250.95 | 241.74 | 257.36 | 35.0 | 34.0 | 35.4 | 7.17 | 7.11 | 7.27 |
| Automotive & Miscellaneous Repair Services | 343.94 | 316.22 | 342.63 | 39.9 | 36.6 | 40.5 | 8.62 | 8.64 | 8.46 |
| Amusements, incl. Motion Pictures | 178.42 | 165.76 | 157.68 | 26.2 | 25.9 | 29.2 | 6.81 | 6.40 | 5.40 |
| Health Services | 330.46 | 327.57 | 310.06 | 36.8 | 36.6 | 37.0 | 8.98 | 8.95 | 8.38 |
| Nursing & Personal Care Homes | 200.35 | 195.85 | 192.42 | 33.9 | 34.3 | 35.9 | 5.91 | 5.71 | 5.36 |
| Hospitals | 396.54 | 396.24 | 360.81 | 38.8 | 39.0 | 37.9 | 10.22 | 10.16 | 9.52 |
| Other Health Services | 298.00 | 293.08 | 296.38 | 35.1 | 34.0 | 36.1 | 8.49 | 8.62 | 8.21 |
| Legal Services | 412.02 | 416.26 | 409.88 | 37.8 | 38.4 | 37.5 | 10.90 | 10.84 | 10.93 |
| Social Services | 171.36 | 178.72 | 194.39 | 28.0 | 28.1 | 33.4 | 6.12 | 6.36 | 5.82 |
| Engineering & Management Services | 442.89 | 426.28 | 393.85 | 7.0 | 37.1 | 36.4 | 11.97 | 11.49 | 10.82 |

## County Emphasis

***December 1991***




Labor market conditions worsened during December 1991 in West Virginia, due to a combination of seasonal fluctuations and the current slide of the national economy. Seasonal conditions affecting the current labor market situation include slowdowns at construction sites due to inclement weather and decline in tourist activity.

Most county unemployment rates were considered worse or much worse than average during December. Those considered much worse than average were Braxton (17.1), Barbour (16.7), Hardy (16.6), Calhoun (16.5), McDowell (14.6), Webster (14.6), Nicholas (13.6), Clay (13.4), Lewis (13.0), Upshur (12.7), Roane (12.5), Wirt (12.5), and Randolph (12.3). On the other end of the spectrum, counties experiencing better-than-average rates included Monongalia (4.1), Pendleton (4.8), Ohio (4.8), Doddridge (5.1), Kanawha (5.6), Mineral (5.7), Monroe (6.2), Hancock (6.2), Wood (6.5), Morgan (6.7, Tyler (6.8), Mercer (7.0) and Cabell (7.0).

# West Virginia Labor Force Statistics by County

*(WV Series Labor Force Data -- as calculated by the WV Bureau of Employment Programs)*

**December 1991**

*(Revised November 1991 in parentheses)*

THESE LABOR FORCE STATISTICS WERE DESIGNED TO BE USED FOR ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

| County | Civilian Labor Force | | Employment | | Unemployment | | Unemployment As Percent of Civilian Labor Force | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Barbour | 5,270 | (5,080) | 4,390 | (4,400) | 880 | (680) | 16.7 | (13.4) |
| Berkeley | 30,030 | (29,530) | 27,670 | (27,820) | 2,360 | (1,700) | 7.9 | (5.8) |
| Boone | 8,050 | (8,030) | 7,290 | (7,340) | 760 | (700) | 9.4 | (8.7) |
| Braxton | 5,290 | (5,150) | 4,390 | (4,460) | 900 | (700) | 17.1 | (13.5) |
| Brooke | 10,070 | (10,030) | 9,340 | (9,420) | 730 | (610) | 7.3 | (6.1) |
| Cabell | 43,320 | (43,510) | 40,290 | (40,790) | 3,020 | (2,720) | 7.0 | (6.3) |
| Calhoun | 2,820 | (2,760) | 2,350 | (2,370) | 470 | (390) | 16.5 | (14.1) |
| Clay | 3,020 | (3,030) | 2,610 | (2,640) | 410 | (390) | 13.4 | (13.0) |
| Doddridge | 2,240 | (2,250) | 2,120 | (2,140) | 110 | (100) | 5.1 | (4.6) |
| Fayette | 16,800 | (16,840) | 15,130 | (15,250) | 1,670 | (1,600) | 9.9 | (9.5) |
| Gilmer | 2,990 | (3,020) | 2,710 | (2,850) | 280 | (170) | 9.4 | (5.6) |
| Grant | 4,950 | (4,760) | 4,380 | (4,470) | 580 | (290) | 11.6 | (6.1) |
| Greenbrier | 14,870 | (15,060) | 13,200 | (13,670) | 1,670 | (1,390) | 11.2 | (9.2) |
| Hampshire | 7,350 | (7,660) | 6,560 | (7,010) | 790 | (660) | 10.7 | (8.6) |
| Hancock | 13,330 | (13,400) | 12,510 | (12,620) | 820 | (780) | 6.2 | (5.8) |
| Hardy | 6,770 | (6,190) | 5,640 | (5,890) | 1,120 | (300) | 16.6 | (4.8) |
| Harrison | 28,430 | (28,270) | 26,020 | (26,270) | 2,420 | (2,000) | 8.5 | (7.1) |
| Jackson | 10,310 | (10,190) | 9,410 | (9,430) | 900 | (770) | 8.7 | (7.5) |
| Jefferson | 20,250 | (20,190) | 18,800 | (19,110) | 1,460 | (1,080) | 7.2 | (5.4) |
| Kanawha | 97,630 | (97,360) | 92,190 | (92,830) | 5,440 | (4,530) | 5.6 | (4.7) |
| Lewis | 7,490 | (7,410) | 6,520 | (6,680) | 970 | (730) | 13.0 | (9.8) |
| Lincoln | 7,550 | (7,470) | 6,750 | (6,750) | 800 | (720) | 10.6 | (9.7) |
| Logan | 13,220 | (11,420) | 12,120 | (10,350) | 1,100 | (1,070) | 8.3 | (9.4) |
| McDowell | 6,400 | (6,340) | 5,460 | (5,510) | 930 | (840) | 14.6 | (13.2) |
| Marion | 22,240 | (22,510) | 20,400 | (20,750) | 1,840 | (1,750) | 8.3 | (7.8) |
| Marshall | 14,720 | (14,600) | 13,400 | (13,500) | 1,320 | (1,100) | 9.0 | (7.5) |
| Mason | 9,870 | (9,830) | 8,700 | (8,900) | 1,180 | (930) | 11.9 | (9.4) |
| Mercer | 26,330 | (26,300) | 24,480 | (24,690) | 1,850 | (1,610) | 7.0 | (6.1) |
| Mineral | 10,430 | (10,410) | 9,840 | (9,860) | 590 | (550) | 5.7 | (5.2) |
| Mingo | 10,860 | (10,900) | 10,080 | (10,040) | 780 | (860) | 7.1 | (7.9) |
| Monongalia | 40,690 | (40,890) | 39,020 | (39,430) | 1,670 | (1,460) | 4.1 | (3.6) |
| Monroe | 4,960 | (5,120) | 4,650 | (4,820) | 310 | (300) | 6.2 | (5.9) |
| Morgan | 5,120 | (5,170) | 4,780 | (4,860) | 350 | (310) | 6.7 | (6.0) |
| Nicholas | 9,160 | (9,010) | 7,910 | (8,010) | 1,250 | (990) | 13.6 | (11.0) |
| Ohio | 23,840 | (23,960) | 22,710 | (22,880) | 1,130 | (1,080) | 4.8 | (4.5) |
| Pendleton | 4,040 | (4,110) | 3,850 | (3,970) | 190 | (140) | 4.8 | (3.4) |
| Pleasants | 2,130 | (2,130) | 1,890 | (1,890) | 250 | (240) | 11.5 | (11.1) |
| Pocahontas | 5,000 | (4,670) | 4,470 | (4,280) | 540 | (390) | 10.7 | (8.3) |
| Preston | 13,100 | (13,070) | 12,160 | (12,280) | 940 | (790) | 7.2 | (6.0) |
| Putnam | 16,760 | (16,650) | 15,460 | (15,570) | 1,300 | (1,080) | 7.7 | (6.5) |
| Raleigh | 27,290 | (27,330) | 25,010 | (25,200) | 2,290 | (2,130) | 8.4 | (7.8) |
| Randolph | 11,970 | (11,620) | 10,500 | (10,620) | 1,470 | (1,000) | 12.3 | (8.6) |
| Ritchie | 5,470 | (5,380) | 4,850 | (4,920) | 620 | (460) | 11.4 | (8.5) |
| Roane | 4,940 | (4,840) | 4,330 | (4,380) | 620 | (460) | 12.5 | (9.6) |
| Summers | 4,160 | (4,170) | 3,680 | (3,830) | 480 | (340) | 11.6 | (8.2) |
| Taylor | 5,630 | (5,610) | 5,100 | (5,150) | 540 | (460) | 9.5 | (8.2) |
| Tucker | 3,620 | (3,560) | 3,260 | (3,300) | 370 | (270) | 10.2 | (7.5) |
| Tyler | 4,870 | (4,820) | 4,540 | (4,550) | 330 | (270) | 6.8 | (5.6) |
| Upshur | 9,180 | (9,000) | 8,010 | (8,170) | 1,170 | (820) | 12.7 | (9.2) |
| Wayne | 15,780 | (15,810) | 14,460 | (14,630) | 1,330 | (1,170) | 8.4 | (7.4) |
| Webster | 3,040 | (3,030) | 2,600 | (2,630) | 440 | (400) | 14.6 | (13.2) |
| Wetzel | 9,590 | (9,460) | 8,880 | (8,890) | 720 | (570) | 7.5 | (6.0) |
| Wirt | 2,110 | (2,190) | 1,840 | (1,980) | 260 | (210) | 12.5 | (9.5) |
| Wood | 40,990 | (40,750) | 38,330 | (38,530) | 2,670 | (2,220) | 6.5 | (5.5) |
| Wyoming | 6,690 | (6,820) | 6,040 | (6,150) | 650 | (670) | 9.7 | (9.9) |
| Statewide | 743,000 | (738,600) | 683,000 | (688,700) | 60,000 | (49,900) | 8.1 | (6.8) |

***All data have been revised to March 1990 benchmark.***
***The West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs and the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics use different methodologies in calculating the unemployment rate.***

# West Virginia Labor Force Statistics by County

*(BLS Series Labor Force Data -- as calculated by the WV Bureau of Employment Programs)*

**December 1991**

*(Revised November 1991 in parentheses)*

Approved by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to Allocate Federal Funds and Determine Eligibility for Federal Assistance Programs

| *County* | *Civilian Labor Force* | | *Employment* | | *Unemployment* | | *Unemployment As Percent of Civilian Labor Force* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Barbour | 5,750 | (5,580) | 4,480 | (4,490) | 1,280 | (1,090) | 22.2 | (19.5) |
| Berkeley | 31,650 | (31,130) | 28,220 | (28,410) | 3,430 | (2,730) | 10.8 | (8.8) |
| Boone | 8,530 | (8,600) | 7,430 | (7,490) | 1,100 | (1,110) | 12.9 | (12.9) |
| Braxton | 5,780 | (5,670) | 4,470 | (4,550) | 1,310 | (1,120) | 22.7 | (19.7) |
| Brooke | 10,590 | (10,600) | 9,520 | (9,620) | 1,060 | (980) | 10.0 | (9.2) |
| Cabell | 45,480 | (46,010) | 41,090 | (41,640) | 4,390 | (4,360) | 9.6 | (9.5) |
| Calhoun | 3,070 | (3,040) | 2,400 | (2,420) | 680 | (620) | 22.0 | (20.5) |
| Clay | 3,260 | (3,330) | 2,670 | (2,700) | 590 | (630) | 18.1 | (18.9) |
| Doddridge | 2,330 | (2,350) | 2,170 | (2,190) | 160 | (170) | 7.0 | (7.1) |
| Fayette | 17,850 | (18,120) | 15,430 | (15,570) | 2,420 | (2,550) | 13.5 | (14.1) |
| Gilmer | 3,170 | (3,190) | 2,770 | (2,910) | 410 | (270) | 12.8 | (8.5) |
| Grant | 5,300 | (5,030) | 4,470 | (4,560) | 830 | (470) | 15.7 | (9.3) |
| Greenbrier | 15,880 | (16,180) | 13,460 | (13,950) | 2,420 | (2,220) | 15.2 | (13.7) |
| Hampshire | 7,830 | (8,210) | 6,690 | (7,150) | 1,140 | (1,050) | 14.5 | (12.8) |
| Hancock | 13,950 | (14,140) | 12,760 | (12,890) | 1,190 | (1,250) | 8.5 | (8.8) |
| Hardy | 7,390 | (6,490) | 5,760 | (6,010) | 1,630 | (480) | 22.1 | (7.4) |
| Harrison | 30,040 | (30,020) | 26,530 | (26,820) | 3,510 | (3,210) | 11.7 | (10.7) |
| Jackson | 10,900 | (10,850) | 9,590 | (9,630) | 1,310 | (1,230) | 12.0 | (11.3) |
| Jefferson | 21,280 | (21,250) | 19,170 | (19,510) | 2,120 | (1,730) | 9.9 | (8.2) |
| Kanawha | 101,900 | (102,040) | 94,010 | (94,780) | 7,890 | (7,260) | 7.7 | (7.1) |
| Lewis | 8,060 | (7,990) | 6,650 | (6,820) | 1,410 | (1,170) | 17.5 | (14.6) |
| Lincoln | 8,050 | (8,040) | 6,890 | (6,890) | 1,160 | (1,160) | 14.5 | (14.4) |
| Logan | 13,960 | (12,280) | 12,360 | (10,560) | 1,600 | (1,710) | 11.5 | (14.0) |
| McDowell | 6,920 | (6,960) | 5,570 | (5,620) | 1,350 | (1,340) | 19.5 | (19.2) |
| Marion | 23,470 | (24,000) | 20,800 | (21,190) | 2,670 | (2,810) | 11.4 | (11.7) |
| Marshall | 15,580 | (15,540) | 13,670 | (13,790) | 1,920 | (1,760) | 12.3 | (11.3) |
| Mason | 10,580 | (10,570) | 8,870 | (9,090) | 1,710 | (1,480) | 16.1 | (14.0) |
| Mercer | 27,650 | (27,780) | 24,970 | (25,210) | 2,690 | (2,570) | 9.7 | (9.3) |
| Mineral | 10,900 | (10,940) | 10,030 | (10,070) | 860 | (870) | 7.9 | (8.0) |
| Mingo | 11,410 | (11,630) | 10,280 | (10,250) | 1,120 | (1,380) | 9.9 | (11.8) |
| Monongalia | 42,220 | (42,600) | 39,790 | (40,260) | 2,430 | (2,340) | 5.8 | (5.5) |
| Monroe | 5,190 | (5,400) | 4,740 | (4,920) | 440 | (490) | 8.6 | (9.0) |
| Morgan | 5,370 | (5,460) | 4,870 | (4,960) | 500 | (500) | 9.3 | (9.1) |
| Nicholas | 9,880 | (9,770) | 8,070 | (8,180) | 1,810 | (1,590) | 18.3 | (16.2) |
| Ohio | 24,800 | (25,080) | 23,160 | (23,360) | 1,650 | (1,720) | 6.6 | (6.9) |
| Pendleton | 4,200 | (4,280) | 3,920 | (4,050) | 280 | (230) | 6.6 | (5.3) |
| Pleasants | 2,280 | (2,310) | 1,920 | (1,930) | 360 | (380) | 15.6 | (16.4) |
| Pocahontas | 5,330 | (4,990) | 4,550 | (4,370) | 780 | (620) | 14.6 | (12.5) |
| Preston | 13,760 | (13,800) | 12,400 | (12,540) | 1,370 | (1,260) | 9.9 | (9.1) |
| Putnam | 17,660 | (17,620) | 15,770 | (15,900) | 1,890 | (1,730) | 10.7 | (9.8) |
| Raleigh | 28,820 | (29,140) | 25,500 | (25,730) | 3,320 | (3,400) | 11.5 | (11.7) |
| Randolph | 12,840 | (12,450) | 10,700 | (10,840) | 2,130 | (1,600) | 16.6 | (12.9) |
| Ritchie | 5,850 | (5,760) | 4,950 | (5,030) | 910 | (730) | 15.5 | (12.7) |
| Roane | 5,310 | (5,220) | 4,410 | (4,470) | 890 | (740) | 16.8 | (14.2) |
| Summers | 4,450 | (4,460) | 3,760 | (3,910) | 700 | (550) | 15.7 | (12.3) |
| Taylor | 5,980 | (5,990) | 5,200 | (5,260) | 780 | (730) | 13.0 | (12.2) |
| Tucker | 3,850 | (3,790) | 3,320 | (3,370) | 540 | (430) | 13.9 | (11.2) |
| Tyler | 5,110 | (5,070) | 4,630 | (4,640) | 480 | (430) | 9.4 | (8.5) |
| Upshur | 9,860 | (9,670) | 8,170 | (8,350) | 1,700 | (1,320) | 17.2 | (13.7) |
| Wayne | 16,670 | (16,820) | 14,740 | (14,940) | 1,930 | (1,880) | 11.6 | (11.2) |
| Webster | 3,290 | (3,330) | 2,650 | (2,680) | 640 | (640) | 19.5 | (19.3) |
| Wetzel | 10,090 | (9,980) | 9,050 | (9,080) | 1,040 | (900) | 10.3 | (9.1) |
| Wirt | 2,260 | (2,360) | 1,880 | (2,020) | 380 | (330) | 16.9 | (14.1) |
| Wood | 42,960 | (42,900) | 39,080 | (39,340) | 3,870 | (3,560) | 9.0 | (8.3) |
| Wyoming | 7,100 | (7,350) | 6,160 | (6,270) | 940 | (1,080) | 13.2 | (14.6) |
| Statewide | 783,600 | (783,100) | 696,600 | (703,200) | 87,100 | (80,000) | 11.1 | (10.2) |

*All data have been revised to March 1990 benchmark.*
*Calculated according to Current Population Survey adjusted to BLS procedures.*

## Partnership for Progress Area Unemployment Rates

*WV Series / BLS Series* ***December 1991***

West Virginia Partnership for Progress areas continued to track seasonally during December 1991. With the exception of area six, all areas experienced an increase in the West Virginia series unemployment rate over the month. The rate in area six declined from 9.5 in November to 9.3 in December. The highest rate was recorded in area three (11.2) while the lowest rate was posted in area seven (6.4) followed closely by area one (6.6). Area three also had the distinction of recording the greatest change in the unemployment rate by advancing from 7.7 to 11.2 percent (+3.5).

# West Virginia Labor Force Statistics by Local Area

## *WV Series Labor Force Data*

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Charleston MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 114.4 | 114.0 | 114.0 |
| Employment | 107.7 | 108.4 | 108.6 |
| Unemployment | 6.7 | 5.6 | 5.4 |
| Rate (%) | 5.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 |
| **Huntington - Ashland - Ironton MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 128.0 | 128.3 | 128.5 |
| Employment | 119.6 | 120.9 | 121.7 |
| Unemployment | 8.4 | 7.4 | 6.8 |
| Rate (%) | 6.6 | 5.7 | 5.3 |
| **Parkersburg - Marietta MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 70.3 | 69.8 | 69.3 |
| Employment | 66.1 | 66.4 | 65.8 |
| Unemployment | 4.1 | 3.4 | 3.5 |
| Rate (%) | 5.9 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| **Wheeling - Bridgeport MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 69.2 | 69.0 | 68.5 |
| Employment | 65.1 | 65.5 | 65.5 |
| Unemployment | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.1 |
| Rate (%) | 5.8 | 5.1 | 4.5 |
| **Clarksburg LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 36.3 | 36.1 | 36.4 |
| Employment | 33.2 | 33.6 | 33.7 |
| Unemployment | 3.1 | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| Rate (%) | 8.4 | 7.1 | 7.6 |
| **Gauley LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 12.2 | 12.0 | 12.0 |
| Employment | 10.5 | 10.6 | 10.6 |
| Unemployment | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.4 |
| Rate (%) | 13.9 | 11.6 | 11.4 |
| **Morgantown - Kingwood LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 53.8 | 54.0 | 51.6 |
| Employment | 51.2 | 51.7 | 49.4 |
| Unemployment | 2.6 | 2.2 | 2.2 |
| Rate (%) | 4.9 | 4.2 | 4.2 |
| **New Martinsville LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 14.5 | 14.3 | 14.5 |
| Employment | 13.4 | 13.4 | 13.4 |
| Unemployment | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.1 |
| Rate (%) | 7.2 | 5.8 | 7.6 |
| **Ronceverte - White Sulphur Springs LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 19.8 | 20.2 | 20.1 |
| Employment | 17.9 | 18.5 | 18.0 |
| Unemployment | 2.0 | 1.7 | 2.1 |
| Rate (%) | 10.0 | 8.4 | 10.3 |

## *BLS Series Labor Force Data*

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Charleston MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 119.6 | 119.7 | 120.3 |
| Employment | 109.8 | 110.7 | 112.1 |
| Unemployment | 9.8 | 9.0 | 8.2 |
| Rate (%) | 8.2 | 7.5 | 6.8 |
| **Huntington - Ashland - Ironton MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 133.0 | 133.5 | 133.3 |
| Employment | 119.3 | 121.1 | 124.0 |
| Unemployment | 13.7 | 12.5 | 9.3 |
| Rate (%) | 10.3 | 9.3 | 7.0 |
| **Parkersburg - Marietta MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 73.4 | 73.1 | 73.0 |
| Employment | 67.2 | 67.8 | 67.8 |
| Unemployment | 6.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 |
| Rate (%) | 8.4 | 7.2 | 7.1 |
| **Wheeling - Bridgeport MSA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 72.2 | 72.4 | 71.9 |
| Employment | 66.2 | 66.9 | 67.4 |
| Unemployment | 6.0 | 5.4 | 4.5 |
| Rate (%) | 8.4 | 7.5 | 6.2 |
| **Clarksburg LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 38.3 | 38.4 | 38.9 |
| Employment | 33.9 | 34.3 | 34.8 |
| Unemployment | 4.5 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| Rate (%) | 11.6 | 10.7 | 10.7 |
| **Gauley LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 13.2 | 13.1 | 13.0 |
| Employment | 10.7 | 10.9 | 11.0 |
| Unemployment | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.1 |
| Rate (%) | 18.6 | 17.0 | 15.8 |
| **Morgantown - Kingwood LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 56.0 | 56.4 | 54.3 |
| Employment | 52.2 | 52.8 | 51.0 |
| Unemployment | 3.8 | 3.6 | 3.3 |
| Rate (%) | 6.8 | 6.4 | 6.1 |
| **New Martinsville LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 15.2 | 15.1 | 15.5 |
| Employment | 13.7 | 13.7 | 13.8 |
| Unemployment | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.7 |
| Rate (%) | 10.0 | 8.9 | 10.7 |
| **Ronceverte - White Sulphur Springs LMA** | | | |
| Labor Force | 21.1 | 21.6 | 21.7 |
| Employment | 18.2 | 18.9 | 18.6 |
| Unemployment | 2.9 | 2.7 | 3.1 |
| Rate (%) | 13.6 | 12.6 | 14.3 |

# Charleston Metropolitan Statistical Area

*(Counties of Kanawha and Putnam, West Virginia)*

**EMPLOYMENT:** Total nonfarm payroll employment declined slightly (-100) during December 1991 in the Charleston MSA. The local goods-producing sector fell by 500 over the month, while service-producing industries advanced by 400 jobs. Construction employment continued its seasonal decline (-500) in the goods-producing industries with government (+300) and retail trade (+200) advancing in the service-producing sector. Comparison with year-ago data reveals nonfarm payroll employment unchanged over the period. Notable losses occurred in retail trade (-500). On a positive note, services increased by 600 over the year totally within the health service industry (+600).

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** Resident-based total unemployment increased significantly (+1,100) during December 1991. The corresponding unemployment rate increased to 5.9 percent of the MSA civilian labor force. Comparison with year-ago figures indicates unemployment up by 1,300, with the unemployment rate increasing from 4.8 percent to the current 5.9 percent.

## WV Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 114.4 | 114.0 | 114.0 |
| Employment | 107.7 | 108.4 | 108.6 |
| Unemployment | 6.7 | 5.6 | 5.4 |
| Rate (%) | 5.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 |

## BLS Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 119.6 | 119.7 | 120.3 |
| Employment | 109.8 | 110.7 | 112.1 |
| Unemployment | 9.8 | 9.0 | 8.2 |
| Rate (%) | 8.2 | 7.5 | 6.8 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Change From: Nov. 1991* | *Dec. 1990* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL | 113.7 | 113.8 | 113.7 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | 93.8 | 94.2 | 93.8 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 17.9 | 18.4 | 17.8 | -0.5 | 0.1 |
| Mining | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Construction | 4.7 | 5.2 | 5.1 | -0.5 | -0.4 |
| Manufacturing | 10.9 | 10.9 | 10.6 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Durable Goods | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Nondurable Goods | 9.0 | 9.0 | 8.8 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 7.6 | 7.6 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SERVICE-PRODUCING | 95.8 | 95.4 | 95.9 | 0.4 | -0.1 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Trade | 29.8 | 29.6 | 30.3 | 0.2 | -0.5 |
| Wholesale Trade | 7.2 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Retail Trade | 22.6 | 22.4 | 23.1 | 0.2 | -0.5 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.6 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Services | 30.5 | 30.5 | 29.9 | 0.0 | 0.6 |
| Health Services | 11.3 | 11.3 | 10.7 | 0.0 | 0.6 |
| Government | 19.9 | 19.6 | 19.9 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Federal | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| State | 9.5 | 9.2 | 9.5 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Local | 8.5 | 8.5 | 8.7 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Labor-Management Dispute Status | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | xx | xx |

## Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing

| | **Average Weekly Earnings** | | | **Average Weekly Hours** | | | **Average Hourly Earnings** | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
| Manufacturing | $649.15 | $630.48 | $579.21 | 44.1 | 44.4 | 44.9 | $14.72 | $14.20 | $12.90 |
| Nondurable Goods | 711.66 | 686.28 | 606.60 | 45.3 | 45.6 | 45.1 | 15.71 | 15.05 | 13.45 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 804.76 | 780.00 | 688.36 | 47.2 | 48.0 | 46.7 | 17.05 | 16.25 | 14.74 |

# Huntington-Ashland-Ironton Metropolitan Statistical Area

*(Counties of Cabell and Wayne, West Virginia; Boyd, Carter and Greenup, Kentucky; Lawrence, Ohio)*

**EMPLOYMENT:** Total nonfarm payroll employment in the Huntington-Ashland-Ironton MSA declined by 500 in December 1991. The goods-producing sector decreased by 300 during December, as construction (-300) and manufacturing (-100) both declined. Mining was the only goods-producing industry to post a gain, advancing by 100 jobs. The service-producing industries decreased by 200 jobs in December; government (-100) and services (-100) posted the decreases. Nonfarm payroll employment fell 1,700 over the year.

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** The number of unemployed in the Huntington-Ashland-Ironton MSA increased by 1,000 in December 1991. This increase was reflected in the surge of the unemployment rate from 5.7 to 6.6 percent over the month. The current level of unemployment reflects an increase of 1600 over the year.

## WV Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | Prelim. Dec. '91 | Revised Nov. '91 | Revised Dec. '90 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 128.0 | 128.3 | 128.5 |
| Employment | 119.6 | 120.9 | 121.7 |
| Unemployment | 8.4 | 7.4 | 6.8 |
| Rate (%) | 6.6 | 5.7 | 5.3 |

## BLS Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | Prelim. Dec. '91 | Revised Nov. '91 | Revised Dec. '90 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 133.0 | 133.5 | 133.3 |
| Employment | 119.3 | 121.1 | 124.0 |
| Unemployment | 13.7 | 12.5 | 9.3 |
| Rate (%) | 10.3 | 9.3 | 7.0 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry

| | Prelim. Dec. '91 | Revised Nov. '91 | Revised Dec. '90 | Change From: Nov. 1991 | Change From: Dec. 1990 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL | 111.4 | 111.9 | 113.1 | -0.5 | -1.7 |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | 91.6 | 92.0 | 93.6 | -0.4 | -2.0 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 25.6 | 25.9 | 26.8 | -0.3 | -1.2 |
| Mining | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Construction | 4.7 | 5.0 | 4.8 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| Manufacturing | 19.3 | 19.4 | 20.5 | -0.1 | -1.2 |
| Durable Goods | 11.2 | 11.3 | 12.3 | -0.1 | -1.1 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Primary & Fabricated Metal Products | 7.3 | 7.3 | 7.8 | 0.0 | -0.5 |
| Other Durable Goods | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.9 | -0.1 | -0.5 |
| Nondurable Goods | 8.1 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Apparel & Other Textile Products | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Chemicals & Petroleum | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| SERVICE-PRODUCING | 85.8 | 86.0 | 86.3 | -0.2 | -0.5 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 7.5 | 7.5 | 8.1 | 0.0 | -0.6 |
| Trade | 29.0 | 29.0 | 29.5 | 0.0 | -0.5 |
| Wholesale Trade | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.7 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| Retail Trade | 23.6 | 23.5 | 23.8 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Services | 25.5 | 25.6 | 25.4 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Health Services | 10.7 | 10.7 | 10.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Government | 19.8 | 19.9 | 19.5 | -0.1 | 0.3 |
| Federal | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| State | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.1 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Local | 11.6 | 11.6 | 11.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Labor-Management Dispute Status | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | xx | xx |

## Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing

| | Average Weekly Earnings Prelim. Dec. '91 | Revised Nov. '91 | Revised Dec. '90 | Average Weekly Hours Prelim. Dec. '91 | Revised Nov. '91 | Revised Dec. '90 | Average Hourly Earnings Prelim. Dec. '91 | Revised Nov. '91 | Revised Dec. '90 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Manufacturing | $574.0 | $605.05 | $531 33 | 41.3 | 41.3 | 39.8 | $13.90 | $14.65 | $13.35 |
| Durable Goods | 594.79 | 620.74 | 556.37 | 40.6 | 41.0 | 40.2 | 14.65 | 15.14 | 13.84 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 521.66 | 538.65 | 561.66 | 41.8 | 43.3 | 44.4 | 12.48 | 12.44 | 12.65 |
| Primary & Fabricated Metal Products | 666.97 | 708.47 | 566.96 | 40.3 | 40.6 | 37.3 | 16.55 | 17.45 | 15.20 |
| Nondurable Goods | 543.14 | 579.90 | 493.61 | 42.4 | 41.6 | 39.3 | 12.81 | 13.94 | 12.56 |

# Parkersburg-Marietta Metropolitan Statistical Area

*(Counties of Wood, West Virginia; Washington, Ohio)*

**EMPLOYMENT:** Total nonfarm payroll employment gained 200 during December 1991 in the Parkersburg-Marietta MSA. Goods-producing businesses lost 100 jobs for the thirty day period, however. A decline in construction (-200) was offset somewhat by a mild increase in manufacturing (+100). The service-producing sector provided 300 additional jobs in December. Advances were recorded in transportation and public utilities (+100) and trade (+200). Compared to December 1990, total nonfarm payroll employment in the Parkersburg-Marietta MSA added 300 jobs. Goods-producing employment did not realize any such gains. A decline in construction (-500) and in manufacturing (-300) accounted for all goods-producing losses. During the same period, the service-producing sector produced 1,100 new jobs. Increases were registered in transportation and public utilities (+100), trade (+100), services (+600), and government (+300).

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** Within the Parkersburg-Marietta MSA the number of unemployed grew by 700 during December 1991. The unemployment rate reflected this change by increasing from 4.9 to 5.9 percent of the civilian labor force. Compared to December 1990 the unemployment rate increased from 5.0 to 5.9 percent.

## WV Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 70.3 | 69.8 | 69.3 |
| Employment | 66.1 | 66.4 | 65.8 |
| Unemployment | 4.1 | 3.4 | 3.5 |
| Rate (%) | 5.9 | 4.9 | 5.0 |

## BLS Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 73.4 | 73.1 | 73.0 |
| Employment | 67.2 | 67.8 | 67.8 |
| Unemployment | 6.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 |
| Rate (%) | 8.4 | 7.2 | 7.1 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry

| | *Prelim. Dec.'91* | *Revised Nov.'91* | *Revised Dec.'90* | *Change From: Nov. 1991* | *Dec. 1990* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL | 62.4 | 62.2 | 62.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | 52.4 | 52.2 | 52.4 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 17.0 | 17.1 | 17.8 | -0.1 | -0.8 |
| Mining | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.9 | -0.2 | -0.5 |
| Manufacturing | 14.1 | 14.0 | 14.4 | 0.1 | -0.3 |
| Durable Goods | 6.9 | 6.8 | 7.1 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Lumber, Wood Products & Furniture | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Primary & Fabricated Metal Products | 2.9 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 7.2 | 7.2 | 7.3 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Chemicals & Allied Products | 5.4 | 5.4 | 5.5 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SERVICE-PRODUCING | 45.4 | 45.1 | 44.3 | 0.3 | 1.1 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 2.5 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Trade | 15.5 | 15.3 | 15.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Wholesale Trade | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Retail Trade | 12.7 | 12.5 | 12.6 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Services | 15.2 | 15.2 | 14.6 | 0.0 | 0.6 |
| Health Services | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.5 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Government | 10.0 | 10.0 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Federal | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| State | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Local | 6.8 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Labor-Management Dispute Status | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | xx | xx |

## Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing

| | **Average Weekly Earnings** *Prelim. Dec.'91* | *Revised Nov.'91* | *Revised Dec.'90* | **Average Weekly Hours** *Prelim. Dec.'91* | *Revised Nov.'91* | *Revised Dec.'90* | **Average Hourly Earnings** *Prelim. Dec.'91* | *Revised Nov.'91* | *Revised Dec.'90* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Manufacturing | $597.25 | $602.45 | $585.50 | 42.6 | 42.1 | 42.8 | $14.02 | $14.31 | $13.68 |
| Durable Goods | 488.03 | 510.72 | 501.02 | 40.2 | 39.9 | 40.8 | 12.14 | 12.80 | 12.28 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 552.52 | 569.62 | 549.79 | 42.6 | 41.7 | 45.4 | 12.97 | 13.66 | 12.11 |
| Primary & Fabricated Metal Products | 480.82 | 534.14 | 507.28 | 37.8 | 38.4 | 37.3 | 12.72 | 13.91 | 13.60 |
| Nondurable Goods | 730.73 | 713.66 | 688.56 | 45.5 | 44.8 | 45.3 | 16.06 | 15.93 | 15.20 |

# Wheeling-Bridgeport Metropolitan Statistical Area

*(Counties of Marshall and Ohio, West Virginia; Belmont, Ohio)*

**EMPLOYMENT:** Total nonfarm payroll employment decreased slightly (-100) during December 1991 in the Wheeling-Bridgeport MSA. The goods-producing sector had a slight decrease (-300) during the month. Manufacturing (nondurable goods) decreased 100 while construction experienced a seasonal decrease of 200. Mining remained stable with no change. The service-producing sector experienced an increase of 200 during December. Trade and government each increased 100. Transportation and public utilities, finance, insurance and real estate and services all remained stable with no change for the month. Comparison with year-ago December 1990 data reflects a decrease of 200 in nonfarm payroll. The service-producing sector had an increase of 200 while the goods-producing sector showed a substantial decrease of 400. Construction decreased 200 while mining and manufacturing each decreased 100. Services (+500), government (+300) and finance, insurance, and real estate (+100) all had increases, while transportation and public utilities remained stable. Trade had a very large decrease (-700) with most of this decrease found in retail trade (-600).

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** Total unemployment for December increased significantly by 500. The MSA unemployment rate also increased from 5.1 percent to 5.8 percent of the civilian labor force. Comparison with year-ago December 1990 reveals unemployment increased by 900 while the unemployment rate rose from 4.5 percent to the current 5.8 percent.

## WV Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 69.2 | 69.0 | 68.5 |
| Employment | 65.1 | 65.5 | 65.5 |
| Unemployment | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.1 |
| Rate (%) | 5.8 | 5.1 | 4.5 |

## BLS Series Labor Force Data

*(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)*

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labor Force | 72.2 | 72.4 | 71.9 |
| Employment | 66.2 | 66.9 | 67.4 |
| Unemployment | 6.0 | 5.4 | 4.5 |
| Rate (%) | 8.4 | 7.5 | 6.2 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry

| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Change From: Nov. 1991* | *Dec. 1990* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL | 60.4 | 60.5 | 60.6 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | 51.0 | 51.2 | 51.5 | -0.2 | -0.5 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 11.0 | 11.3 | 11.4 | -0.3 | -0.4 |
| Mining | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Construction | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.9 | -0.2 | -0.2 |
| Manufacturing | 7.1 | 7.2 | 7.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Durable Goods | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 4.3 | 4.4 | 4.4 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| SERVICE-PRODUCING | 49.4 | 49.2 | 49.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Trade | 16.0 | 15.9 | 16.7 | 0.1 | -0.7 |
| Wholesale Trade | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 13.3 | 13.2 | 13.9 | 0.1 | -0.6 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Services | 17.6 | 17.6 | 17.1 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Health Services | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Government | 9.4 | 9.3 | 9.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Federal | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| State | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Local | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Labor-Management Dispute Status | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | xx | xx |

## Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* | *Prelim. Dec. '91* | *Revised Nov. '91* | *Revised Dec. '90* |
| Manufacturing | $638.74 | $647.55 | $570.68 | 43.6 | 45.0 | 41.9 | $14.65 | $14.39 | $13.62 |
| Nondurable Goods | 667.42 | 664.97 | 644.11 | 44.2 | 44.9 | 43.2 | 15.10 | 14.81 | 14.91 |
| Durable Goods | 605.87 | 626.44 | 480.38 | 43.0 | 45.1 | 40.3 | 14.09 | 13.89 | 11.92 |

## Applicants and Nonfarm Job Openings in West Virginia Job Service Offices

| Occupational Category | Applicants Available Program Year to Date | Active File | NONFARM JOB OPENINGS Received Program Year to Date | Total | UNFILLED 30 Days or More | FILLED Total | Applicant/ Openings Program Year to Date | Active File/ Unfilled Openings End of Month |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL | 139,466 | 68,068 | 20,616 | 2,040 | 1,465 | 15,866 | 6.8 | 33.4 |
| Professional, Technical & Managerial | 14,367 | 7,123 | 636 | 163 | 108 | 252 | 22.6 | 43.7 |
| Clerical & Sales | 36,871 | 16,266 | 4,055 | 604 | 412 | 2,667 | 9.1 | 26.9 |
| Services | 16,566 | 7,262 | 3,160 | 288 | 176 | 2,159 | 5.2 | 25.2 |
| Agricultural, Fishery & Forestry | 1,166 | 562 | 52 | 8 | 8 | 29 | 22.4 | 70.3 |
| Processing | 7,351 | 4,022 | 485 | 105 | 90 | 443 | 15.2 | 38.3 |
| Machine Trades | 9,624 | 5,252 | 604 | 86 | 54 | 393 | 15.9 | 61.1 |
| Benchwork | 5,898 | 3,118 | 343 | 109 | 75 | 191 | 17.2 | 28.6 |
| Structural Work | 23,774 | 13,238 | 1,194 | 204 | 149 | 711 | 19.9 | 64.9 |
| Miscellaneous | 28,983 | 12,809 | 10,087 | 473 | 393 | 9,021 | 2.9 | 27.1 |
| Transportation | 6,417 | 3,408 | 558 | 75 | 42 | 329 | 11.5 | 45.4 |
| Packaging & Materials Handling | 16,714 | 5,847 | 9,111 | 301 | 261 | 8,434 | 1.8 | 19.4 |
| Other | 5,852 | 3,554 | 418 | 97 | 90 | 258 | 14.0 | 36.6 |
| Entry Total | 20 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | xx | xx |

## Select Unemployment Compensation Claims Activities

| | Dec. 1991 | Nov. 1991 | Dec. 1990 | Percent Change: Nov. 1991 | Dec. 1990 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Initial Claims | 13,598 | 8,909 | 9,397 | 52.6 | 44.7 |
| Weeks Claimed | 109,148 | 75,389 | 77,785 | 44.8 | 40.3 |
| Benefits Paid | $13,853,871 | $9,479,745 | $10,142,285 | 46.1 | 36.6 |
| Weeks Compensated | 90,099 | 60,402 | 66,362 | 49.2 | 35.8 |
| Average Weekly Payment | $153.76 | $156.94 | $152.83 | -2.0 | 0.6 |
| Trust Fund Balance, End of Month | $149,736,209 | $161,896,648 | $147,706,528 | -7.5 | 1.4 |

Workers' Compensation

## Select Workers' Compensation Claims Activities

| | Dec. 1991 | Nov. 1991 | Dec. 1990 | Percent Change: Nov. 1991 | Dec. 1990 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Temporary Disability Benefits Paid | 8,293,464 | 5,706,450 | 5,422,063 | 45.3 | 53.0 |
| Medical Benefits Paid | 6,792,500 | 7,883,597 | 7,284,878 | -13.8 | -6.8 |
| Permanent Partial Disability Benefits Paid | 2,876,859 | 4,057,748 | 2,560,755 | -29.1 | 12.3 |
| Permanent Total Disability Benefits Paid | 8,263,538 | 8,365,686 | 6,018,029 | -1.2 | 37.3 |
| Benefits to Dependents of Fatalities | 1,994,263 | 1,668,804 | 1.389,976 | 19.5 | 43.5 |
| Funeral Benefits Paid | 31,269 | 17,500 | 9,500 | 78.7 | 229.1 |
| Miscellaneous Benefits Paid* | 104,915 | 245,125 | 362,096 | -57.2 | -71.0 |
| DWRF** Permanent Total Disability Benefits Paid | 622,460 | 617,525 | 607,028 | 0.8 | 2.5 |
| DWRF** Benefits Paid to Dependents of Fatalities | 1,008,925 | 1,039,324 | 994,087 | -2.9 | 1.5 |
| Sum of All Benefits Paid | 29,988,193 | 29,603,758 | 24,648,414 | 1.3 | 21.7 |

** Includes returned benefit checks, attorney fees and specified dependent benefits.*
*** Disabled Workers' Relief Fund provides benefits to meet the weekly minimum benefit payable for worker's injured prior to July 1, 1971.*

## Select Job Training Partnership Act Characteristics

*Performance Standard Report*
*July 1, 1990 - June 30, 1991*

| Job Training Program | Standard | Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Entered Employment Rate - Adults | 68 | 68 |
| Average Wage at Placements Adults | 4.95 | 4.81 |
| Cost Per Entered Employment Adults | 4,500 | 2,284 |
| Entered Employment Rate - Welfare Recipients | 56 | 58 |
| Entered Employment Rate - Youth (Out of School Programs) | 45 | 53 |
| Positive Termination Rate - Youth (In School Programs) | 75 | 85 |
| Cost Per Positive Termination - Youth | 4,900 | 2,101 |
| Employability Enhancement Rate - Youth (In School Programs) | 33 | 52 |

| Characteristics | Enrolled | Positive Outlook* |
|---|---|---|
| Adult | 8,582 | 6,951 |
| Female | 5,406 | 4,379 |
| Male | 3,176 | 2,572 |
| Youth | 7,326 | 5,495 |
| Female | 3,882 | 2,912 |
| Male | 3,444 | 2,583 |
| School Dropout | ** | 2,341 |
| High School Graduate /Equivalent or above | ** | 6,355 |
| Single Parent | ** | 2,777 |
| Black | ** | 904 |
| Hispanic | ** | 35 |
| Handicapped | ** | 1,059 |
| Unemployed | ** | 6,648 |
| Welfare | ** | 2,841 |
| Veterans | ** | 772 |

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Charleston WV 25305-0112

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